

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY APRIL 10, 2007

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2007–08 REGULAR SESSION

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 582

Introduced by Assembly Member Evans

February 21, 2007

An act to amend ~~Section 69950~~ *Sections 69950 and 69951* of the Government Code, relating to court transcription fees.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 582, as amended, Evans. Court transcription fees.

Existing law establishes the fees for obtaining court transcriptions. ~~The~~ *Under existing law, the fee for the original printed copy of the court transcript is \$0.85 for each 100 words and for each copy purchased at the same time by a court, party, or other person purchasing the original is \$0.15 for each 100 words. Under existing law, the fee for a first copy to any court, party, or other person who does not simultaneously purchase the original is \$0.20 for each 100 words, and for each additional copy, purchased at the same time, \$0.15 for each 100 words. Existing law also provides that for a transcript in a civil case, an official court reporter or official court reporter pro tempore may charge an additional 50% for special daily copy service.*

This bill would provide that from January 1, 2008, to December 31, 2008, inclusive, the fee for the original printed copy of the court transcript is \$0.98 per 100 words and for each copy purchased at the same time by a court, party, or other person purchasing the original is \$0.17 for each 100 words. The bill would provide that the fee for a first copy of the transcript to a court, party, or other person who does not simultaneously purchase the original is \$0.23 for each 100 words and for each additional copy purchased at the same time, \$0.17 for each

100 words. The bill would also provide that from January 1, 2009, to December 31, 2009, inclusive, and on and after January 1, 2010, these costs shall increase, as specified. The bill would provide that on or before April 1, 2011, and every April 1 thereafter, these costs shall be increased according to the cumulative increase in the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers, as specified. The bill would further provide that the fee for transcription is an additional 50% for the special daily copy service. The bill would make related legislative findings and declarations. The bill would also make technical, nonsubstantive changes to these provisions.

~~This bill would make a technical, nonsubstantive change to that provision.~~

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: ~~no~~ yes.
State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

- 1 SECTION 1. The Legislature finds and declares all of the
- 2 following:
- 3 (a) Official court reporters and court reporters pro tempore
- 4 employed by the courts are currently paid under a dual
- 5 compensation structure in which the base salary of the court
- 6 reporter is supplemented by income from preparing required
- 7 transcripts and providing other required transcription services.
- 8 (b) The dual compensation structure protects the state from
- 9 bearing the full cost of transcript preparation and other
- 10 transcription services and avoids the resulting consequences of
- 11 overtime liability related to these services.
- 12 (c) The fees for original transcripts prepared by official court
- 13 reporters and court reporters pro tempore have not been adjusted
- 14 in 16 years and fees for copies purchased at the same time as the
- 15 original transcript have only increased once in 103 years.
- 16 (d) In order to ensure full and fair compensation of official court
- 17 reporters and court reporters pro tempore employed by the court,
- 18 and in order to attract and retain official court reporters and court
- 19 reporters pro tempore employed by the courts that have sufficient
- 20 skills and competence to serve the needs of the justice system, it
- 21 is imperative that the system of dual compensation provide
- 22 sufficient payment for transcription services.

1 (e) *Therefore, it is necessary to revise the fees for transcripts*
2 *prepared by official court reporters and court reporters pro*
3 *tempore.*

4 SEC. 2. *Section 69950 of the Government Code is amended to*
5 *read:*

6 69950. ~~(a) The~~ *A transcript prepared by an official reporter*
7 *or official reporter pro tempore employed by a court shall be*
8 *subject to the following:*

9 (a) (1) *From January 1, 2008, to December 31, 2008, inclusive,*
10 *the fee for transcription for the original-ribbon or printed copy is*
11 *eighty-five cents (\$0.85) shall be ninety-eight cents (\$0.98) for*
12 *each 100 words, and for each copy purchased at the same time by*
13 *the court, party, or other person purchasing the original, fifteen*
14 *cents (\$0.15) seventeen cents (\$0.17) for each 100 words.*

15 (2) *From January 1, 2009, to December 31, 2009, inclusive,*
16 *the fee for transcription for the original printed copy shall be one*
17 *dollar thirteen cents (\$1.13) for each 100 words, and for each*
18 *copy purchased at the same time by the court, party, or other*
19 *person purchasing the original, twenty cents (\$0.20) for each 100*
20 *words.*

21 (3) *On and after January 1, 2010, the fee for transcription for*
22 *the original printed copy shall be one dollar twenty-four cents*
23 *(\$1.24) for each 100 words, and for each copy purchased at the*
24 *same time by the court, party, or other person purchasing the*
25 *original, twenty-two cents (\$0.22) for each 100 words.*

26 (b) ~~The~~ (1) *From January 1, 2008, to December 31, 2008,*
27 *inclusive, the fee for a first copy to any court, party, or other person*
28 *who does not simultaneously purchase the original shall be twenty*
29 *cents (\$0.20) twenty-three cents (\$0.23) for each 100 words, and*
30 *for each additional copy, purchased at the same time, fifteen cents*
31 *(\$0.15) seventeen cents (\$0.17) for each 100 words.*

32 (2) *From January 1, 2009, to December 31, 2009, inclusive,*
33 *the fee for a first copy to any court, party, or other person who*
34 *does not simultaneously purchase the original shall be twenty-six*
35 *cents (\$0.26) for each 100 words, and for each additional copy,*
36 *purchased at the same time, twenty cents (\$0.20) for each 100*
37 *words.*

38 (3) *On and after January 1, 2010, the fee for a first copy to any*
39 *court, party, or other person who does not simultaneously purchase*
40 *the original shall be twenty-nine cents (\$0.29) for each 100 words,*

1 and for each additional copy, purchased at the same time,
2 twenty-two cents (\$0.22) for each 100 words.

3 (c) On or before April 1, 2011, and on or before each April 1
4 thereafter, the amounts described in paragraph (3) of subdivisions
5 (a) and (b) shall be increased proportionally by the increase in
6 the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers, as published
7 by the United States Bureau of Statistics, for the previous calendar
8 year, to be rounded up to the nearest cent by the Administrative
9 Office of the Courts. The Administrative Office of the Courts shall
10 also publish an updated transcript fee schedule and those increased
11 fees shall take effect on that April 1.

12 SEC. 3. Section 69951 of the Government Code is amended to
13 read:

14 69951. ~~For transcription, in civil cases, the reporter may charge~~
15 ~~The fee for transcription is an additional 50 percent for special~~
16 ~~daily copy service.~~

17 SECTION 1. ~~Section 69950 of the Government Code is~~
18 ~~amended to read:~~

19 69950. ~~(a) The fee for transcription for original ribbon or~~
20 ~~printed copy is eighty-five cents (\$0.85) for each 100 words, and~~
21 ~~for each copy purchased at the same time by the court, party, or~~
22 ~~other person purchasing the original, fifteen cents (\$0.15) for each~~
23 ~~100 words.~~

24 ~~(b) The fee for a first copy to any court, party, or other person~~
25 ~~who does not purchase at the same time the original shall be twenty~~
26 ~~cents (\$0.20) for each 100 words, and for each additional copy,~~
27 ~~purchased at the same time, fifteen cents (\$0.15) for each 100~~
28 ~~words.~~